



NEWS FROM **JACK SCOTT**

21ST SENATE DISTRICT



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BILL TO RESTORE \$98 MILLION IN COMMUNITY COLLEGE BUDGET CUTS MOVES TO GOVERNOR'S DESK

Senator Jack Scott carries SB 735 on Senate Floor

Bill would return \$98 million to community colleges for facility and instructional equipment needs

Senator Jack Scott (D-Pasadena) carried SB 735 to passage on the Senate Floor by a 37-1 vote to restore \$98 million in state budget vetoes to the California Community Colleges. The bill also provides \$14.9 million in planning funds for 33 community college building projects, and issues a legislative signal that community colleges will receive a larger share of higher education bond proceeds in future years. The urgency bill now goes to the Governor for action.

"I was heartened by the overwhelming support today in the Senate for restoring this community college funding. As a former president two community colleges -- Pasadena City College and Cypress College -- I know first-hand that these baseline budget cuts to building maintenance, computers, and instructional equipment are devastating to the educational mission of the community colleges," said Senator Scott.

"Community colleges have repeatedly been asked to do more with less money," continued Scott. "They receive thousands of dollars less per student than the other segments, but they consistently work to meet the critical education needs of more than 1.5 million California students seeking to transfer, seek job training, or upgrade their job skills."

"Restoring the \$98 million in maintenance and instructional equipment funds, and \$14.9 million in capital outlay funds, will help the colleges meet the tidal wave of new students entering higher education in the coming years," said Scott.

SB 735 restores \$49 million for the Scheduled Maintenance programs and \$49 million of Instructional Equipment and Library Materials Replacement programs. These programs allow colleges to cover expenses such as fixing leaky roofs, upgrading ventilation and sprinkler systems, and purchasing computers and lab equipment.

SB 735 also restores \$14.9 million in funds for high priority community college capital outlay projects that were also vetoed from the state budget. These projects will be funded from bond proceeds

"I am hopeful that the Governor will support restoration of this funding for our community colleges," concluded Scott. Governor Davis has until October 14 to act on SB 735.

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